

The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Saturday the 18th day of March 1922, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

The duties of the Collector of Madras.

1376 Q.—Diwan Bahadur C. ARUNACHALA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state what the duties were of the Collector of Madras, prior to 1900, 1910, 1920, and in 1922?

A.—The Collector of Madras originally combined with the by no means inconsiderable duties of an ordinary Collector, in so far as they arise within the capital city, the following appointments:—

(1) Chairman of the Harbour Trust Board, (2) Collector of Sea Customs, (3) Protector of Emigrants, (4) Superintendent of Stamps and (5) Superintendent of Stationery. He was relieved of the duties of Chairman of the Harbour Trust Board prior to 1900. Between 1900 and 1910 he was relieved of the duties of Collector of Sea Customs and his staff of assistants was more than proportionately decreased. Between 1910 and 1920 he was given the additional duties of a Paymaster of Carnatic Stipends. Meanwhile his work in connexion with the income-tax has very largely increased, the collections in 1920–21 being Rs. 69,99,132 as against collections of Rs. 31,23,673 in 1910–11. In 1922 the same work continues. It is not proposed that he should be relieved of any income-tax work when the bulk of the staff becomes Imperial.

Punitive Police in the disturbed mill area.

1377 Q.—Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD SADULLA BADSHA SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total strength of the additional police force (punitive) located in the disturbed mill area with reference to the press communiqué dated the 17th September 1921;

(b) what is the estimated cost of such additional police force;

(c) what is the total resident population of the area comprised within the Perambur police zone; and

(d) whether the Government propose to exempt Government servants or any other loyal section of the public within that area from payment of the contribution towards the cost of the additional police force?